Complaints received by State Bank of India, chairman against corruption in State Bank of Indore

4584. SHRI RAM NARESH YADAV: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of complaints/ representations from employees of State Bank of India that have been received by the chairman of the State Bank of India Central Office, Bombay against corruption in the State Bank of Indore during last year till date;

(b) what are the demands as per these complaints by the employees of the State Bank of Indore;

(c) what steps have been taken by the Chairman to fulfil their demand of fresh enquiry against corruption in the State Bank of Indore; and

(d) if not, the reason therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SIFNGH): (a) to (d) Information is being collected, and to the extent available, will be laid on the Table of the House.

Closure of branches of Banque Nationale De Paris

4585. SHRI ASHIS SEN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Banque Nationale De Paris (French Bank) has given notice for closing down of its Calcutta Main office and park Circus Branch as well as its Kalbadevi Branch at Bombay with effect from the 1st March, 1992;

(b) if so, what are the circumstances and reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the Bank has decided retrenchment of staff including officers;

(d) whether there is a subsisting agreement with the staff Association that staff strength will not be reduced; and

(e) if so, what steps Government propose to take to protect the staff of this foreign bank operating in our country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have reported that Banque Nationale De paris has sought their approval for closure of their branches at Park Circus, Calcutta, and Kalbadevi, Bombay *w.e.f.* 31.3.1992, not for closing the Calcutta main office.

(b) The reason adduced by the said bank for the closure of the two branches are broadly as under:—

(i) The growth of deposits in these branches has been marginal.

(ii) Both branches have been consistently incurring losses.

(iii) Neither branch has any significant business apart from deposit taking.

(iv) The branches are not in a position to generate any international business.

(v) They have been functioning more or less as sub-branches under the supervision of the main offices at the respective centres.

(c) and (d) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have reported that there has been neither any retrenchment nor any intention of retrenchment of staff. However, the bank has drawn up a scheme of voluntary retirement which has been accepted by some of its officers. The Bank is negotiating with the Employees Association for acceptance of the scheme.

(e) The bank has informed RBI that the interests of the staff would be taken care of by them.

Steps to recover Tax arrears from Industries

4586. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Board of Direct Taxes and Central Board of Excise and Customs have been directed by his Ministry to prepare a list of industries which were avoiding tax; and

(b) if so, what action Government propose to take to recover the arrears from these industries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) No, Sir.